

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF INTERVIEW

Applicants' representative gratefully acknowledges an interview, held with the Examiner, on February 6, 2008. During that interview, claims 1, 11, 12 and 20 were discussed with respect to the cited art, and it was agreed that Applicants would amend the claims as proposed.

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3-30 and 32-54 are pending in this application. By this amendment, claims 2 and 31 have been cancelled and claims 1, 4, 9-11, 13, 16-27, 29, 30, 37, 38, 40 and 43-54 have been amended. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections set forth in the Office Action dated August 21, 2007, is respectfully requested in view of this amendment.

The amendments include the addition of the limitation of a master control processor into independent claims 1 and 27. This feature had appeared in claims 2 and 31, which have been cancelled. It is respectfully submitted that the above amendments introduce no new matter within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §132. In the outstanding Office Action, the Examiner rejected the claims under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over cited art references and Applicants' admitted prior art. These rejections, as applied to the revised claims, are respectfully traversed.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §103

In the outstanding Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1, 4-7, 9-14, 16-19, 21-30, 33-41, 43-47 and 49-54 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over the basic reference of *Rao*, U.S. Patent No. 6,674,756 (hereinafter *Rao*) taken in view of Armstrong, et al., U.S. Patent

No. 6,691,146 (hereinafter *Armstrong*), and Jourdenais, et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,278,986 (hereinafter *Jourdenais*). Claims 2 and 31 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over *Rao*, taken in view of *Armstrong*, and *Jourdenais*, taken further in view of Applicants' admitted prior art. Claims 3, 8 and 32 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over *Rao*, taken in view of *Armstrong*, and *Jourdenais*, taken further in view of Kurose, et al. U.S. Published Application 2002/0035641 (hereinafter *Kurose*). Claims 15 and 42 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over *Rao*, taken in view of *Armstrong*, and *Jourdenais*, taken further in view of Applicants' admitted prior art. Claims 20 and 48 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over *Rao*, taken in view of *Jourdenais*, taken further in view of Snay, US Patent No. 6,282,678 (hereinafter *Snay*).

Response

This rejection is respectfully traversed, as applied to the amended claims because there is no showing of obviousness under 35 U.S.C. §103.

Rao is cited as showing a router capable of implementing multiple virtual routers and partitioning into the multiple virtual routers. *Rao* fails to show or suggest the use of a common OS and in fact does not even reference the OS as such. *Rao* fails to suggest a "common operating system" and therefore cannot be used to show "a plurality of processes ... sharing said common operating system". (Language from claim 27; claim 1 similar.)

Taken in context, invention as claimed in claim 1 specifies:

... a host router ... having a capability of running plural independent processes and routing application copies corresponding to the independent processes, but sharing

said common operating system ..., and establishing virtual routers, thereby establishing said v-net domains ... , the v-net domains logically partitioned into ones of said v-net domains ... having ... an independent replica array of all global variables across said common operating system, each said process running in a said v-net domain independently of all other said v-net domains on top of said common operating system"

Claim 27 is written as a method claim but has a similar restriction.

Rao describes multiple virtual routers, in which each virtual router is partitioned to multiple virtual private networks. This method of partitioning is substantially different from that claimed by Applicants, and is in essence a partition of the individual virtual routers into networks. (*Rao* at col. 20, lines 11-21.) There is no suggestion that this be done by the v-net domains logically partitioned into ones of said v-net domains having an independent replica array of all global variables across said common operating system.

To the contrary, *Rao* explains the use of single and multiple CPU platforms. A single macro is either placed into a queue or is used to invoke a function directly. (*Rao* at col. 30, lines 2-17.) The result is that the packet is passed to an application. More particularly, *Rao* does not suggest to partition the v-net domains logically so to provide an independent replica array of all global variables across said common operating system, such that processes run in the domains independently on top of a common operating system.

Armstrong describes a partition manager but in a general computing environment. Significantly, the partition manager allows operation of a different operating system, to perform different tasks. This is of course the opposite of using a common OS running common tasks to create multiple communication domains. Therefore, *Armstrong* fails to suggest running plural

independent processes and routing application copies corresponding to the independent processes, but sharing said common operating system.

Taking *Rao* in combination with *Armstrong*, there is no suggestion that a host router running plural independent processes share a common operating system. There is no suggestion use the common OS to establish v-net domains and there is no suggestion to partition the v-net domains within a host router. As a result, the combination cannot show or suggest an independent replica array of all global variables across said common operating system, with , each process running in a v-net domain independently on top of a common OS.

Jourdenais is used to cite the use of variables in computers, but fails to suggest the above features.

Regarding claims 11 and 37, the cited art fails to suggest partitioned interfaces interchangeably among v-net domains, such that a particular interface is associated with only one such v-net domain at one time, but can be repartitioned among said v-net domains to reconfigure said host router. This carries through to claims 17 and 48, which describe using a particular socket as a test bed. Without the suggestion of the use of the partitioned interfaces interchangeably among v-net domains, a particular one of these partitioned interfaces cannot be used as a test bed.

Motivation is Absent in the Prior Art

Applicants respectfully submit that the combination fails to meet the requirements of a showing of obviousness under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) regarding motivation under the standards of

Dystar Textilfarben GMBH v. C. H. Patrick, 464 F.3d 1356 (Fed. Cir. 2006), and under *KSR International Co. v. Teleflex Inc. et al.*, slip opinion No. 04-1350 (S.Ct, 30 Apr 2007) In this regard Applicants refer to their Response filed June 5, 2007.

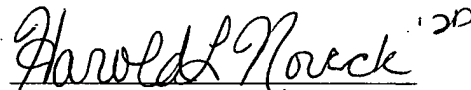
CONCLUSION

In light of the foregoing, Applicants submit that the application is in condition for allowance. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the rejections and the case be passed to issuance. If the Examiner believes the application is not in condition for allowance, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner call the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: March, 2008

THE NATH LAW GROUP
112 South West Street
Alexandria, VA 22314-2891
Tel: 703-548-6284
Fax: 703-683-8396


Harold L. Novick
Registration No. 26,011
Stanley N. Protigal
Registration No. 27,658
Customer No. 20529